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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masahiko HIROSE *et al.*  
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Title : WATER TREATMENT APPARATUS

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**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

In response to the Office Action dated July 15, 2003, please amend the present application as follows and consider the included remarks.

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DEC 23 2003  
TC 1700